

1. 1. The following information is for your information only.

CRICKET IN 1898

W. D. FORD

GREAT AUSTRALIAN BOWLERS.

Up to a certain time it was as a rule by Australians that Australian bowlers managed to beat English teams—when they did beat them.—and it was the fashion to say

As we learned much from them both in howling and basting. As for the basting pose, I do not consent, not when howlers come before the court do I think that all the jury would agree, for figures must go or something, and mean more when howling is concerned than basting. A most interesting little work, published in 1887, and entitled 'English v. Austrians at the Vinkel', gives a list of howling averages for all eleven-a-side matches between the two countries up to the end of the Australian season of 1886-7. The ratio of the howlers, English and Australian, who took not less than 50 wickets

come up to that time, reads: 1 Turner, 3
Edwards, 2 Ashes, 2 Emswiler, 5
Spofforth, 6 Blyth, 7 Paine, 8 Marry,
Bernes, 10 Palmer; and in the first 98
there are only seven Australians. In the
number of wickets taken the Australians
are far ahead, but the reader must be re-
minded that whereas a member of, say, a
Leicestershire side would only have two or
three chances of bowling out Australians,
the latter were going round the counties at

the rate of two per week, dealing out destruction. The figures work out approximately as follows:—Australian bowlers 2,935 wickets at an average cost of 15.5 p; English bowlers, 1,502, average 17.2. This difference in the number of wickets taken has been explained: the difference in the

attributed to the fact that in those ten years the
the Australians sent many search elephants
as well as weak countries, such as Warwick
shire and Herefordshire, which were
then regarded as first-class, though they have
now passed the sacred gates. For centuries it

were in those days incontestably superior to the Australians, the bowlers of the latter side had the harder task of them. Comparing figures and those sketchy suggestions, let us cry quite, though conform to having a slight leaning in the direction of Spofforth, Turner and Co.

What we are going to see in a short time is another question, and a few notes on the style of the bowlers of the coming side will not be out of place now. Jones will undoubtedly form his great pace be regarded as the terror of the team, but during the visit of Stoddart's side he began to find that he was sacrificing too much to pace and turned his attention to variety, with the best results. For a few years, he can

be the fastest bowler in the world even excepting K. Wright, but his delivery is not very easy and he naturally tires. One notable point about him is the good length he keeps; half-volleys and full-pitches are almost unknown, while a long-hop is a likely ball for a switch. His action is certainly doubtful when he tries to put on the pace, fair enough under ordinary conditions. He is a real wonderful field at mid-off, nothing better too hot for him. The story goes that he

fore one of the test matches he declares that he had never missed a catch; in the match he did, and the question went round: "Have you heard the news?" "What news?" "Why Jones has missed a catch." An imprudent person is said to have put the conundrum to Jones himself, but at a billiard table, between them! In Noble he will have an admirable foil at the other end, and, generally, a batsman. He scored

as a junior against Stoddard's first team and overhauled him by a bowler by Howe McKibbin, and Coningham, he undoubtedly proved a gem of the first water, and the most puzzling bowler in Australia. With plenty of variety, both of pace and length, he possesses the knack of curling the ball in at will, a trick he is said to have learned from Albert Trott, a baseball pitcher. He

most deceptive ball swerves in the air, the leg and breaks back with great rapidity, hence the batsman has to be very watchful. Trumble is another bowler who is likely to cause trouble; with his great height naturally deceives the batsman as to the flight of the ball, as well as in the angle which it rises; add to this that he keeps

perfect length with a smart break having also a knack of inducing men to hit wide balls, and his value to his side in all kinds of wickets, will at once be cognized. In addition to Jones, Tru-

our batsmen before the summer is over, as being especially brilliant, but as a batting great steadiness. His pace is of medium, with a nice break-back, and a considerable precision of length and direction. Like all Australian bowlers he has learnt the absolute necessity of variety, and has

ing learned his lesson puts it into practice. It was a wise move on the part of an Australian selector to leave the final of their other bowlers till the practical of the cricket season in Australia. McKibbin, Howell and Giffen are three capital men ready to hand.

delivery was freely criticised in this country, but as no one has, to my knowledge, so far, so-called him as yet, he must be as a bowler. The chief feature of bowling is the pace with which the ball comes from the pitch, and the wonder is that he can put in the ball both

the off and front leg. Naturally his leg suffers in consequence, and in this respect he may be compared to Charles Towns, but, like him, when he finds and keeps his length he is most puzzling, and the batters find themselves smiling the while of the ball. Heals keeps an excellent eye on the ball. With all this, and well equipped with ball. With all this,

varieties at his command—more or less and being also a splendid field to hunt in. Boating he is always dangerous and fatal. Howell, who has capital and the blue ribbon of American horse show a tremendous pace with any railway and a good break bank.

annihilates. He breaks in more extreme
is enough to beat the heat, and as the
nips up very fast from the pit, he
always dangerous. Of his left hand
hitting I shall speak elsewhere; for
moment he is a second figure. As G.
G... ..

Asquith, there is nothing more
written about his bowing and the
in full, please be sure to show your work.

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Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 1100

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Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 1170

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ARIDI, Captain GORDON.

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Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 098

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May, and will have quick despatch.

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Agents.

Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 2497

Intimations.

NOTICE.

MR. COLLEN MOD. SMART has this
day been Adjudged to Stand Out
Fiduciary per procreation.
RAY & REID.
Hongkong, December 18, 1898.

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Hongkong, January 9, 1899. 82

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Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 1108

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Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 1140

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The Attention of Passengers is directed
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Hongkong, May 9, 1899. 1095

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this Steamer. First-class Saloon is situated
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Hongkong, May 11, 1899. 1018

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Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 1024

FOR SHANGHAI.

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Agents.

Hongkong, May 10, 1899. 1152

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BAMBERG,
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the 17th instant.

For Freight, apply to
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Hongkong, May 10, 1899. 1163

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

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Captain FARMER, will be despatched as
above on TUESDAY, the 23rd May.

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BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
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Hongkong, April 25, 1899. 1034

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June.

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Hongkong, May 12, 1899. 098

Mails.

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE.

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AND LUGGAGE.

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SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Previous to Wednesday, May 24.

Success to Wednesday, May 24.

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Success to Wednesday, May 24.

Mails.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

TO SAN FRANCISCO, VIA INLAND

SEA OF JAPAN & HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

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Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)
Saturday, May 20, at Noon.

City of Rio de Janeiro
(via Shanghai, Nagasaki,
Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)
Tuesday, June 13, at Noon.

City of Rio de Janeiro
(via Shanghai, Nagasaki,
Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)
Saturday, May 27, at Daylight.

City of Rio de Janeiro
(via Shanghai, Nagasaki,
Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)
Thursday, June 9, at Noon.

City of Rio de Janeiro
(via Shanghai, Nagasaki,
Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)
Tuesday, July 13, at Noon.

City of Rio de Janeiro
(via Shanghai, Nagasaki,
Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)
Saturday, May 27, at Daylight.

City of Rio de Janeiro
(via Shanghai, Nagasaki,
Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu)
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